

**REMARKS**

Claims 20-23 are pending. By this amendment, claims 20-23 are canceled and new claims 24-27 are added.

The Office Action rejects claims 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Huynh (U.S. Patent 5,255,330) in view of Hendricks (U.S. Pat. 6,181,335). This rejection is respectfully traversed as it may be applied to new claims 24-27.

The invention as set forth in claim 24 includes switching means for switching inputs between the video signal and test signals. The phase adjustment is carried out for example by inputting test signals comprising the white level signal (value 220 for 8bit display) being lower than the maximum displayable level and the black level (value 16 for 8bit display) being higher than the minimum displayable level. By means of the phase adjustment using these test signals, the sampling result can include both the level higher than the white level (220) and the level lower than the black level (16) without disregarding such values. Thus, the phase adjustment can be carried out with higher accuracy. After the adjustment, the sampling values concentrate on the white level (220) and the black level (16) for example as shown in Fig. 4a. Namely, it is adjusted in such a manner that the data having the level from the minimal displayable level (0) to the center level (118) (level 118 is the center of the white level 220 and the black level 16) concentrate on the black level (16) and the data having the level from the center level (118) to the maximum displayable level (255) concentrate on the white level(220).

In contrast, Huynh is applied to a scanner, and it is assumed that its black level is a minimum displayable level (for example, value is 0 for 8bits) and its white level is maximum displayable level (for example, value 255 for 8bits). Thus, it is so adjusted that data of the minimum level value (0) to the intermediate level value (127) may concentrate on the minimum level value (0) while data of the intermediate level value (127) to the maximum level value (255) may concentrate on the maximum level value (255) (Namely, the data distribution may concentrate on the white and black values).

As it is so adjusted that the white level data (128-255) may concentrate on the 225 while the black level data (0-127) may concentrate on the value 0, the Examiner simply points out that the level of the first value range and the level of the second value range of the present invention are identical to the white level data and the black level data of this cited Huynh reference. Huynh does not disclose the above-noted features now recited in claim 24 of the present invention.

Further, in the presently claimed invention, the optimal phase adjustment amount is stored in the non-volatile memory when the power is turned on, the stored data is read out and the sampling phase is adjusted based on the adjustment amounts stored in the memory. Then, the switching means allows the video signal to be inputted so as to be sampled by the adjusted sampling clock. The phase adjustment amount is never further adjusted depending on the result of the sampling of the input video signal as done in the cited reference. This is because the input signal is either one of black level (0) or white level (255), as the invention of the reference is to be applied for a scanner. Thus, the present invention to a product which is completely different from that of the reference.

The present invention (claim 27) comprises storage means comprising individual storage regions each corresponding to each type of a plurality of color signals included in the video signal (such as R, G, B), and the phase setting value adjusted by the adjustment means for each type of color signal is stored in the individual storage regions. Since the invention of the Huynh reference is to be applied to a scanner, the input signal is based on the black-white image. Thus, the reference does not include such storage means as recited in claim 27.

For at least the above reasons, it is submitted that the cited references do not render obvious any of claims 24-27. Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance are solicited.

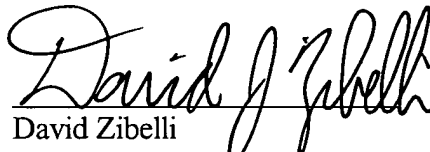
Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

**U.S. PATENT APPLICATION NO. 10/071,148**  
**DOCKET NO. 484/45**

The Office is authorized to charge any fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Should there be any questions concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

  
David Zibelli  
Registration No. 36,394

Dated: June 25, 2003

KENYON & KENYON  
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20005-1257  
(202) 220-4200  
(202) 220-4201

DCO 459277 v1